

MEMO from FCEM&HS

Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security



OHIO
Michael R. Pannell, Director



Damage from 2012 tornado in Moscow, Ohio



One of the 195 Outdoor Warning Sirens in Franklin County

FCEM&HS

Michael R. Pannell, Director
5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd.
Columbus OH 43230-1049
Phone 614-794-0213

On the Web:
www.fcemhs.org

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JOIN IN THE STATEWIDE TORNADO DRILL MARCH 4

To Your Organization's Safety Officer/Manager: **STATEWIDE TORNADO DRILL**

Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week will be held March 1– 7, 2015. Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security urges you and your organization to exercise a tornado safety plan during the **Statewide Tornado Drill on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 9:50 a.m.** Tornadoes are nature's most violent windstorms and are the number one risk for Franklin County. More than two dozen tornadoes have hit Franklin County since 1954. Designing and exercising a tornado safety plan for your establishment will help your organization respond safely in a real event.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DRILL

- Listen for the outdoor sirens at 9:50 a.m. on March 4.
- Practice your safety plan — go to your designated tornado shelter. [Click here](#) for more information.
- Note: The drill will take the place of the weekly Wednesday noon outdoor warning siren test in Franklin County. The system will be activated one time for three minutes — a longer tone than in the regular Wednesday noon test.
- [Click here](#) to tell us about your participation this year's drill. Make sure to provide your email address to receive a participation certificate.

SEVERE-WEATHER PREPAREDNESS TIPS

Be Informed

- Get a weather alert radio. They're available from most electronics stores and major retailers. For more information visit www.nws.noaa.gov/nwrl/.
- Learn more about tornadoes and other severe weather hazards Franklin County faces on the FCEM&HS website at www.fcemhs.org
- Enroll in the Franklin County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. [Click here](#) for more information.

Make a Plan

- Decide on the safest place to shelter during tornadoes at work, home or school.
- Keep extra emergency supplies on hand, including a battery-operated radio, food, water and medication.
- Learn more about emergency plans at Ready.Gov.

Get Involved

- If you can't participate in the tornado drill on March 5, conduct your own drill on another day this spring.
- Volunteer five minutes each week with the FCEM&HS Siren Watch Program. Get details [here](#).

